

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please enter the following amended and new claims:

Claims 1-8 (Canceled)

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): [~~A-gene~~] DNA encoding [~~the GFP~~] a fluorescent protein  
[~~according to claim 2~~] comprising an amino acid sequence that differs from SEQ ID No. 1 by  
only mutations Phe64Leu, Val163Ala, and Ser175Gly.

Claims 10 and 11 (Canceled)

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): [~~A-gene~~] DNA encoding [~~the BFP~~] a fluorescent protein  
[~~according to claim 5~~] comprising an amino acid sequence that differs from SEQ ID No. 1 by  
only mutations Tyr66His, Tyr145Phe, Phe64Leu, and Leu236Arg.

Claim 13 (Canceled)

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): [~~A-gene~~] DNA encoding [~~the BFP~~] a fluorescent protein  
[~~according to claim 7~~] comprising an amino acid sequence that differs from SEQ ID No. 1 by  
only mutations Tyr66His, Tyr145Phe, Phe64Leu, Val163Ala, Ser175Gly and Leu236Arg.

Claim 15 (New): A method of visually analyzing gene expression or protein localization in a cell comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a cell transfected with a vector comprising the DNA of any of claims 9, 12, 14 or 17;
- (b) culturing the cells under conditions to express a fluorescent protein encoded by the vector; and
- (c) detecting the presence of the fluorescent protein.

Claim 16 (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the cell is a mammalian cell.

Claim 17 (New) DNA encoding a fluorescent protein comprising an amino acid sequence that differs from SEQ ID No. 1 by only mutations Tyr66His, Tyr145Phe, Val163Ala, and Ser175Gly.